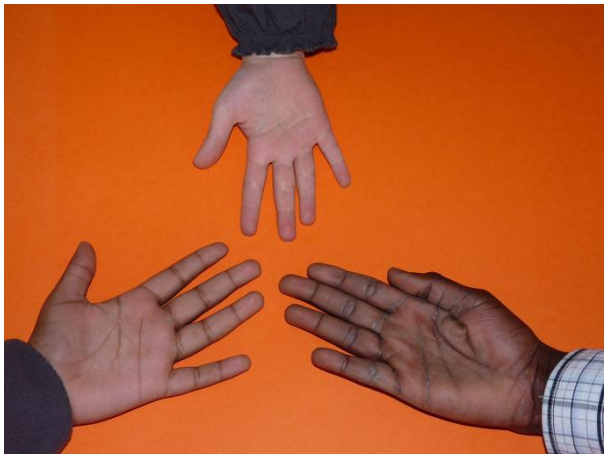
First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice



August 13, 2023
10:00 am

“Reaching Out, Giving a Hand”

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Hybrid Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

a just
world
for all
ucc.org

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

RINGING THE BELL *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **MARTY KLEINO**

PRELUDE **"I Surrender All"** **JOSHUA CANTANIA**
Windfield A. Weeden

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS **IVAN HARNER**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.
- It is a pleasure to have the **Rev. Jay Cummings** bringing the message today.
- **Melanie Harner,** Zoom Host, will introduce folks participating in worship.
- Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved community.
- Please submit written announcements to by e-mail to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"There Is Room for All"
76 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsive with microphone muted **IVAN HARNER**

One: God moves among us

Many: We welcome your presence, no matter by what means you arrive.

One: Reach out your hand and I shall always be with you.

Many: We reach for you, Jesus, and trust you are present when we fear or ache.

One: Your presence, Oh Lord, calms the seas as it calms our hearts.

Many: We rest assured knowing you are ever present with us,
assuaging our worries as you love our anxieties into softness.

HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"This Is a Day of New Beginnings"
417 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

SCRIPTURE READING **Matthew 14:22-33** **REV JAY**

MORNING MESSAGE **"Reaching Out: Giving a Hand"** **REV JAY**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording **REV JAY**

*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **REV JAY**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER *Unison with Microphone muted **REV JAY**

God of so many names, you command us to come to you,
Yet we are doubtful of our abilities to make the journey.
We are so uncertain of our steps,
Yet we long to have the faith in ourselves that you have in us.
Be with us and embolden us through faith to rise as we are called to walk with you
and walk alongside those who need companionship.
Show us how to be children of God who can set skepticism down
and take up the mantle of faithful presence.
Amen

Use this moment of silence to offer your own prayers.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **REV JAY**

The gifts of faith come to us in many ways, and the miracles we witness are not always so obvious. May the manifestation of God's great abundance in our lives inspire us to generosity in as many ways as we see God's love unfurl.

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"Faith of [the Martyrs]"** **JOSHUA CANTANIA**
Frederick William Faber

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Take My Gifts" v 2, 562 NCH

Take the fruits that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
Harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
Spiced with humor, laced with laughter, flavor of the Jesus life,
*Tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief***.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **IVAN HARNER**

Holy One, we thank you for revealing yourself to us in ways both big and small,
in ways miraculous and mundane.
Use our gifts to further your loving justice in our communities near and far.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Song of the Soul"
81 ES

BENEDICTION *Microphone muted Unison **REV JAY**

POSTLUDE **"Are You Washed in the Blood"** **JOSHUA CANTANIA**
Elisha Hoffman

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

*Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Zoom Only Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Joshua Cantania, Accompanist
Ivan Harner, Liturgist
Jenn Zibbell, MID

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Worship Address:
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734-482-6980
ypsiucc.org

ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** snappygoat, pixabay.com
- **Call to Worship/Disciples Prayer/Invitation to Offering/Prayer of Dedication:**
  Dr. Sherry Warren, Minister of Women's and Gender Justice for National UCC Ministries
- **Benediction:** 2010*Chaplain's Handbook*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For pastoral care needs and/or emergencies, please call or text Marty Kleino, Congregational Life Coordinator at 734-262-1419.

Worship Next Week: **Zoom Host, Anne Marie Nicoll-Turner; Worship Leader, Patty Sherwood**

Looking Ahead: August 27th, Rev. John Rohde

OUR MINISTRIES

HOLY GROUNDS AND TEA FOR THE SOUL

During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at Trinity Health St. Joe Mercy Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night challplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout. The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry of hospitality and caring.

Please consider donating coffee (locally roasted by Michigan companies,) tea, single packaged candy/snacks and other things that accompany tea. Contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or 734-262-1419 to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com.

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

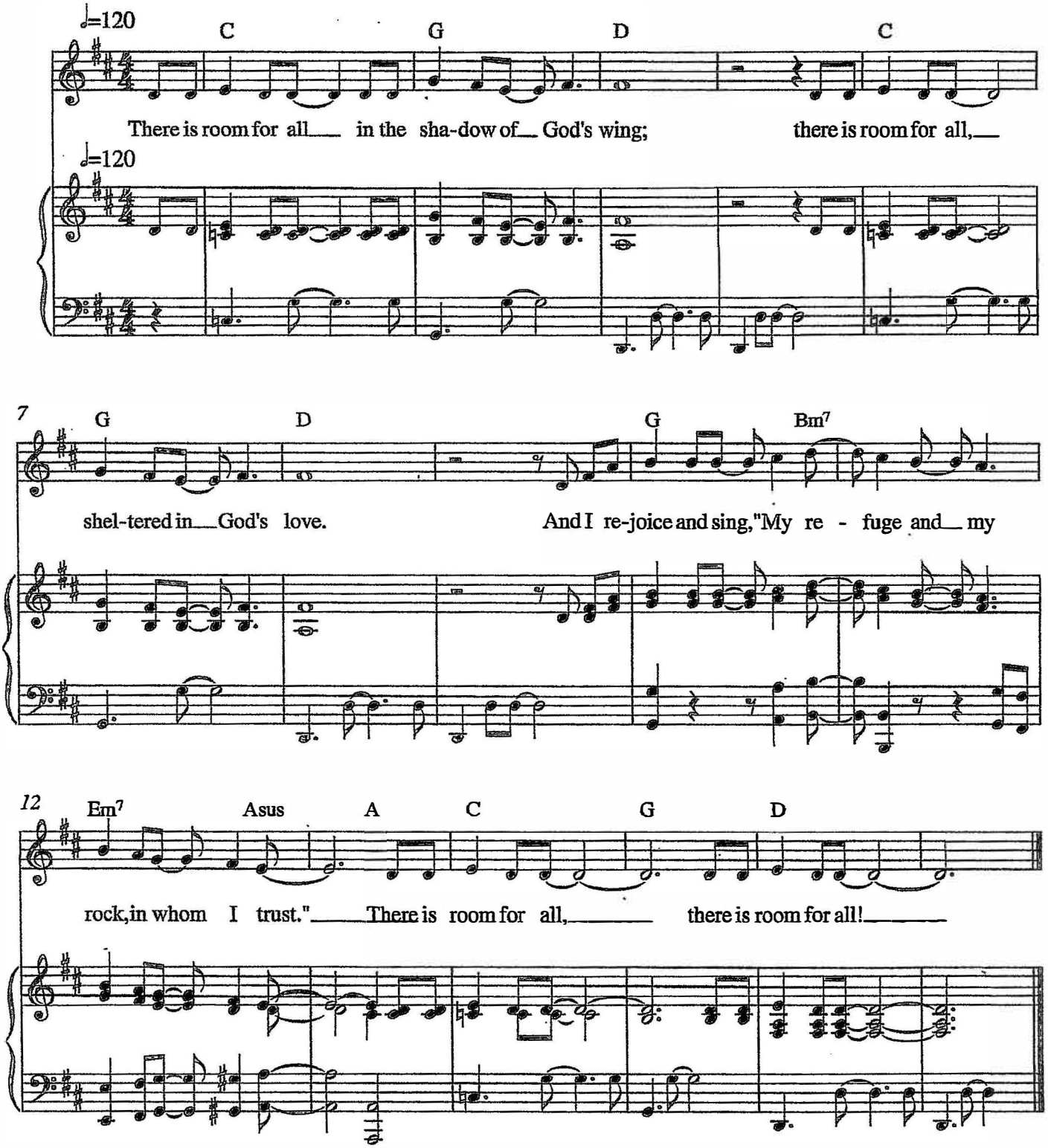
First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

There Is Room for All



Words and Music: Bruce Harding, Copyright ©2006. All rights reserved. Used by permission. www.evensong.ca.

417 This Is a Day of New Beginnings

2 Cor. 5:16–17

Brian Wren, 1978; rev. 1983

Unison

1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re - mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is bring-ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.

2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of dif-ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.

3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and griev-ing, seek-ing new paths, and sure to find.

4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new be - gin-nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

* In faith we'll gath - er 'round the ta - ble to taste and share what love can do. This is a day of new be - gin-nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

1–3 4

*Alternate fourth stanza for Holy Communion

Brian Wren wrote this hymn in 1978 for a New Year's Day service in Oxford, England. The music is by the editor of two hymnals of the United Methodist Church and was composed for the original Wren text.

Tune: BEGINNINGS 9.8.9.8.
Carlton R. Young, 1987

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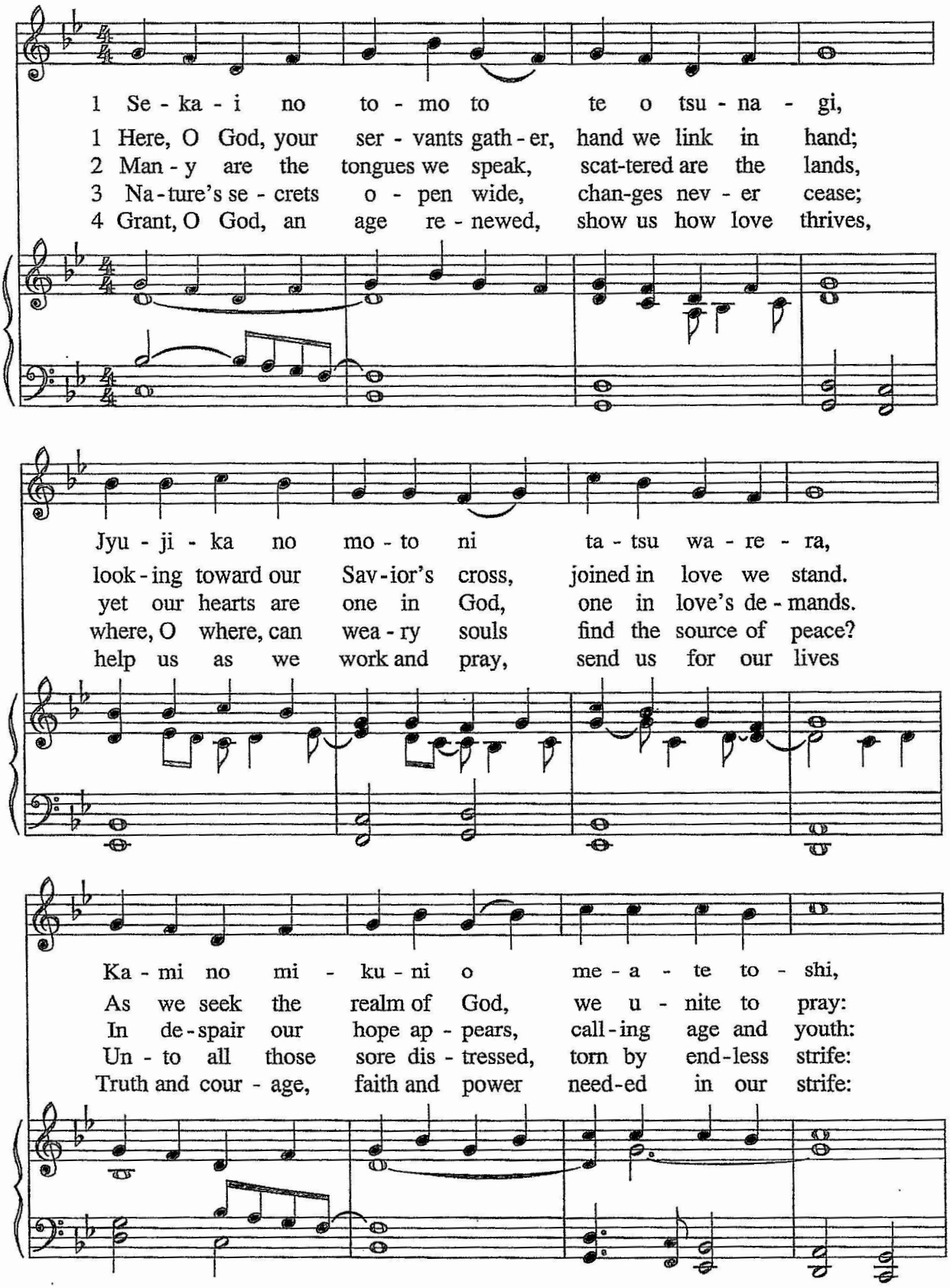
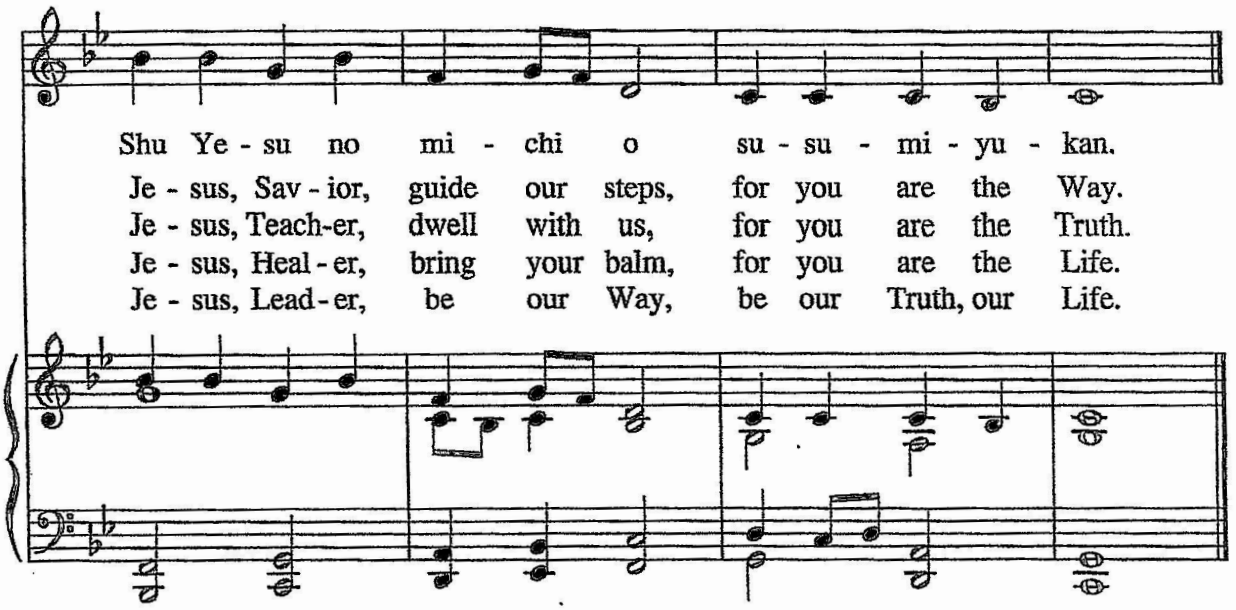
Sekai no Tomo
(Here, O God, Your Servants Gather)

1/2

John 14:6; Rom. 10:12–13; Eph. 1:7–14

Tokuo Yamaguchi, 1958; alt.
Phonetic transcription, I-to Loh, 1958
Transl. Everett M. Stowe, 1958; alt.





This hymn was composed for the fourteenth World Council of Christian Education, 1958. Tokuo Yamaguchi has served many Japanese parishes and since 1979 has been pastor emeritus of Toyohashi Church, Aichi Prefecture. His translation of The Journal of John Wesley *won official commendation.*

Tune: TOKYO 7.5.7.5.D.
Japanese gagaku mode
Arr. Isao Koizumi, 1958

Song of the Soul

Words and music by Cris Williamson

G D Am7

1&4 "Love of my life," I am cry - ing; I am not
2. What do you do for your liv - ing? Are you for -
3. Come to your life like a war - rior; Noth - in' will

D Am7 D G

dy - ing: I am danc - ing, danc - ing a - long
giv - ing, giv - ing shel - ter? Fol - low your heart;
bore yer; You can be hap - py. Let in the light;

D Am7 D Am7 D

in the mad - ness; there is no sad - ness, on - ly a
love will find you; truth will un - bind you; Sing out a
it will heal you; And you can feel you Sing out a.

G Bm/F# Em D D/A D

song of the soul. chorus And we'll sing this song;
song of the soul.
song of the soul.

D7 D7/E D7/F# G C G Em7 Am

why don't you sing a - long? and we can sing

D D7 C G/B Am G

for a long, long time.

Bm/F# Em D D/A D D7 D7/E D7/F# G

Why don't you sing this song, why don't you sing

C G Em7 Am D

a - long? and we can sing for a long,

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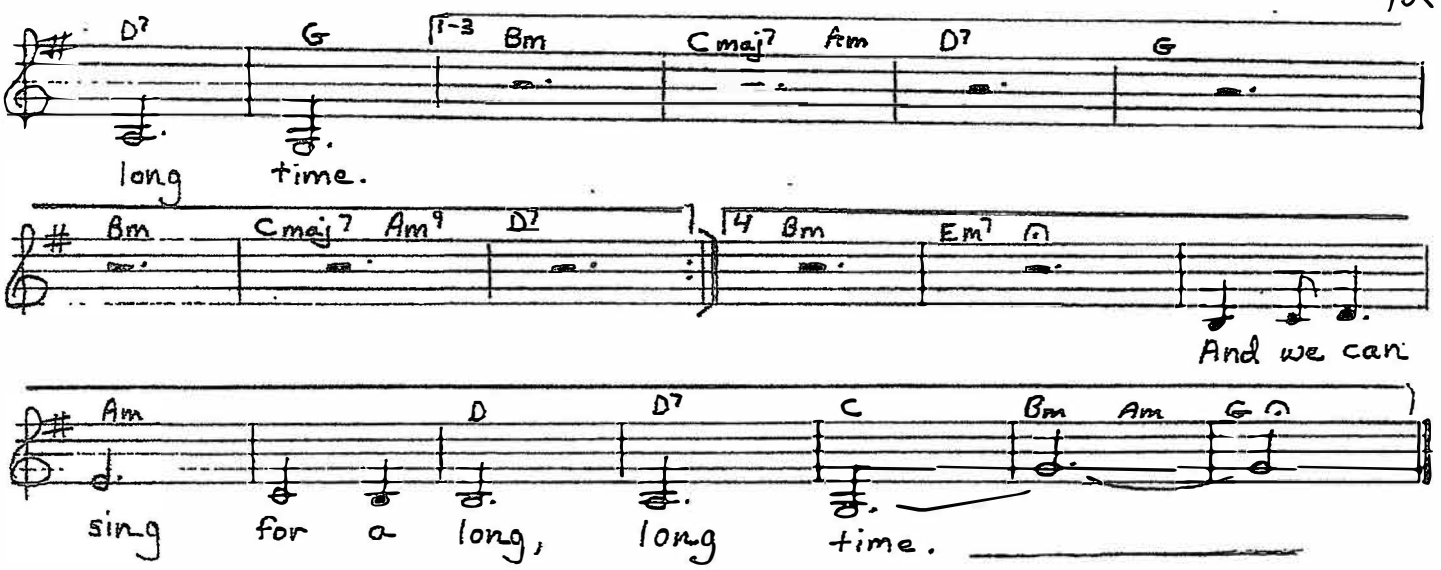

Cris Williamson (born 1947) is an American feminist singer-songwriter and recording artist. She was a visible lesbian political activist, during an era when few who were unconnected to the lesbian community were aware of Gay and Lesbian issues. Williamson's music and insight have served as a catalyst for change in the creation of women-owned record companies in the 1970s. Using her musical talents, networking with other artists working in Women's music, and her willingness to represent those who did not yet feel safe in speaking for themselves, Williamson is credited by many in the LGBT community for her contributions, both artistically, and politically, and continues to be a role model for a younger generation hoping to address concerns and obtain recognition for achievements specific to people who have historically been ignored.